

## **Abilities Fostered by the Curriculum at The University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy**

The curriculum culminating in the awarding of the Doctor of Pharmacy degree at The University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy is ability-based. Successful completion of the program will ensure the development of both general and professional educational abilities (listed below). Progression through the four-year curriculum provides for the formulation and continuous strengthening of these abilities. These have been modified from the School's outcomes delineated in 1998, in order to reflect new emphases present in the 2004 CAPE Outcomes Statement for Pharmacy Education and the 2007 ACPE Guidelines.

### **UM General Abilities**

*The following three general educational abilities are emphasized by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS); and demonstration of programmatic contribution to these general abilities is desired by The University of Mississippi for all appropriate undergraduate majors.*

#### **1. Critical Thinking, Analysis and Decision-Making**

The student can find, understand, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information and make informed, rational, and responsible decisions.

#### **2. Communication Skills**

The student can communicate with various audiences by written, verbal, and electronic media for a variety of purposes.

#### **3. Mathematical Competence**

The student is proficient in the expression of quantitative relationships and can perform the needed mathematical operations to infer their consequences.

### **Professional Abilities of the School of Pharmacy**

#### **1. Assess patient drug therapy**

- a. Collect and organize patient data, medical records, interviews, and psychomotor evaluations
- b. Evaluate and interpret patient data
- c. Apply knowledge of medical terminology and abbreviations
- d. Apply knowledge of specified drugs and drug classes
- e. Apply knowledge of specific physiologic systems
- f. Apply knowledge of specific disease pathology and comorbid conditions

#### **2. Provide contemporary evidence-based patient-specific drug therapy**

- a. Apply understanding of indications for pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic therapy
- b. Apply clinical reasoning skills in drug product selection, chemical entity, and dosage formulation based on principles of pharmaceuticals, medicinal and natural product chemistry

- c. Develop appropriate dosing regimens, which reflect application of knowledge of pharmaceutical calculations, systems of measurement, initial dose, dose titration, and dosage adjustments
  - d. Prepare accurate patient-specific pharmaceutical agents, dosage forms and delivery systems
  - e. Develop rational plans for monitoring therapeutic outcomes
  - f. Develop rational plans for monitoring and managing adverse events
  - g. Develop plans for anticipating, avoiding, and resolving drug interactions, drug-drug interaction, drug-food interaction, drug-disease interaction, drug-lab interaction, and drug-procedure interaction
  - h. Develop plans for patient education on drug therapy and therapeutic lifestyle changes
  - i. Document recommendations and services accurately and comprehensibly
- 3. Provide contemporary evidence-based population-focused care**
- a. Analyze epidemiologic and pharmaco-economic data, medication use criteria, medication use review, and risk reduction strategies
  - b. Apply knowledge of protocol utilization for the initiation and modification of drug therapy
  - c. Develop population-based protocols for medication therapy management
- 4. Manage patient-centered practice with contemporary methods**
- a. Appropriately manage resources to maximize economic, clinical and humanistic outcomes for patients, and effectively manage financial, personnel, time, and technology resources
  - b. Appropriately manage safe, accurate and time-sensitive medication distribution
  - c. Apply ethics and professional principles to assure efficient utilization of resource management and effective treatment choices
  - d. Assure that medication use systems minimize medication errors and optimize patient outcomes
  - e. Develop proposals for establishing, marketing, and being compensated for medication therapy management and patient care services rendered
  - f. Practice in accordance with state and federal regulations and statutes
- 5. Collaborate with patients, caregivers, and health professionals to engender a team approach to patient care**
- a. Employ communication styles and techniques appropriate to the audience
  - b. Work effectively within a multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary environment
  - c. Include patient and caregiver as integral parts of a treatment plan
- 6. Retrieve, analyze, and interpret the professional, lay, and scientific literature to provide drug information to patients, their families, other involved health care providers and the public to optimize patient care.**
- a. Apply understanding to statistical methods
  - b. Apply understanding of research design principles
  - c. Evaluate research outcomes for validity
  - d. Demonstrate expertise in informatics
- 7. Demonstrate understanding of health problems specific to diverse populations**
- a. Display empathy in patient interactions

- b. Display sensitivity to differences in ethnicity, gender, values, or belief systems (cultural competency)
  - c. Apply understanding of contemporary and historical social and economic factors that influence health and health care, including health literacy and health care disparities
- 8. Provide comprehensible, effective education to patients, health care professionals, and the public**
- a. Serve as reliable and credible source of drug information
  - b. Effectively educate patients using all appropriate communication modalities (verbal, written, other)
  - c. Apply knowledge of roles of advocacy and support organizations (e.g., AA, Epilepsy Foundation) to practice
  - d. Present effective educational programs and presentations to public and health care profession audiences
- 9. Analyze internal and external factors that influence pharmacy and other health care systems**
- a. Demonstrate knowledge of the impact of health care systems on pharmacy practice
  - b. Demonstrate understanding of the influences of legislation on pharmacy practice
  - c. Demonstrate understanding of the roles of professional organizations
- 10. Promote the availability of effective health improvement, wellness, disease prevention, and health policy, applying population-specific data, quality improvement strategies, informatics, and research processes.**
- a. Engage in health-related community outreach activities
  - b. Identify public health problems
  - c. Suggest solutions for public health problems
  - d. Review current health policies and recommend modifications
  - e. Participate in the development of drug use and health policy
  - f. Help design pharmacy benefits
- 11. Develop self-learning skills to foster lifelong learning**
- a. Take responsibility for gathering new knowledge
  - b. Demonstrate an ability to evaluate and utilize information resources
  - c. Exhibit self-assessment behaviors